

Current Status of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Apparatus An apparatus for making knitted garments ~~starting~~ from a knitted raw tubular portion characterised in that it comprises at least one tubular support capable of rotating about at least one axis ~~on which~~ wherein said knitted raw tubular portion is ~~put placed on said at least one tubular support~~ for being subject to be subjected to at least one operation.

2. (currently amended) Apparatus The apparatus, according to claim 1, wherein said at least one tubular support is peripherally equipped with a plurality of holes in communication with a suction system suitable for causing said knitted raw tubular portion to adhere on the a surface of said at least one tubular support in order to assure its correct position during the said at least one operation.

3. (currently amended) Apparatus The apparatus, according to claim 1, wherein ~~when said operation is a cutting step~~ said tubular support is associated to ~~to~~ with at least one means for cutting said knitted raw tubular portion according to at least one predetermined cutting line, said means for cutting being capable of moving with respect to said tubular support along at least one direction[,], ~~said cutting step being executed by combination of rotation of said tubular support and of translation of said cutting means whereby edges of said garments can be cut of desired shape.~~

4. (currently amended) Apparatus The apparatus, according to claim 1, wherein said ~~or~~ each at least one axis about which said tubular support can rotate is an electronically controlled axis.

5. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 4, wherein the control of said axis of rotation of said tubular support is carried out ~~operating it~~ by means of motors associated to with means for detecting the angular position of the shaft, ~~selected from the group of: encoder, resolver, potentiometer.~~

6. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 3, wherein said cutting means is ~~a~~ of laser-type.

7. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ An apparatus to manufacture knitted garments starting from a knitted raw tubular portion characterised in that it comprises a carousel rotatable about a driven axis, said carousel supporting on whose boundary a plurality of tubular supports is arranged on the boundary of said carousel of tubular supports, wherein each of said tubular support supports being is carried stepwise by the carousel through corresponding workstations, each tubular support being selectively capable of rotating ~~capable of rotating~~ about at least one axis in said workstations.

8. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 7, wherein at at least at one of said ~~stations~~ workstations said tubular supports are operatively connected to actuating means, ~~which causes said actuating means causing them~~ said tubular support to rotate about at least one electronically controlled axis.

9. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 7, wherein said tubular supports have peripherally a plurality of holes ~~that and wherein~~ at least at one of said station workstations ~~are~~ is put in communication with a suction system in order to cause said knitted raw tubular portion to adhere on ~~the~~ a surface of said tubular support.

10. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the said workstations is a moisturizing station wherein at least one spray means is provided suitable for moisturizing the processed said knitted raw tubular portion.

11. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the said workstations ~~provided~~ is a drying station ~~at which~~ wherein said knitted raw tubular portion put on said tubular support is ~~crossed~~ dried by a warm air flow that ~~draws it on the~~ flows across said tubular support.

12. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus, according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the said workstations is a cutting station ~~of~~ operatively arranged to cut said knitted raw tubular portion on the tubular support.

13. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~, according to claim 12, wherein the said knitted raw tubular portion is cut by a cutting means movable along at least one direction with respect to said at least one tubular support, ~~the latter~~ said at least one tubular support being operatively connected to ~~said~~ an actuating means, ~~which causes them~~ said actuating means rotating said at least one tubular support to rotate about at least one electronically controlled axis[;], ~~said cutting step occurring by combination of the motion of said tubular support and said cutting means in order to cut edges of desired shape.~~

14. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for making knitted garments starting from a knitted raw tubular portion ~~characterised in that it provides the following steps comprising:~~
putting a knitted raw tubular portion on a tubular support said tubular support being selectively capable of rotating about at least one axis; and,
treating said knitted raw tubular portion on said tubular support, said treating step comprising at least one of the following operations: cutting, moisturizing, drawing on the support, quality checking[;].

~~said tubular support being selectively capable of rotating about at least one axis.~~

15. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method, according to claim 14, wherein said tubular support is peripherally equipped with a plurality of holes in communication with a suction system suitable for causing the said knitted garment to adhere on the a support surface ~~to assure its correct position during the relative treatment.~~

16. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method, according to claim 14, wherein the said cutting step of the knitted raw tubular portion is made comprises rotating the said tubular support about at least one electronically controlled axis and moving a cutting tool, ~~selected from the group laser, ultrasound, mechanical cutter, etc. in a sliding~~ an orthogonal direction in order to cut edges of said knitted garments. ~~according to a desired shape through a combination of the motion of the support and the cutting tool.~~

17. (new) The method according to claim 16 wherein said cutting tool is selected from the group consisting of a laser, an ultrasound cutter, or a mechanical cutter.